We claim:

1. A soft material compensator comprising a support carrier having at least one layer of polymer fibers, and comprising a barrier layer in the form of a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) foil which is arranged at the side of said support carrier facing the inner side of the compensator and is bonded to said support carrier, characterized in that there is provided at the outer side of the compensator a protective layer in the form of an elastomeric outer layer that is likewise bonded to said support carrier, which protective layer significantly changes color in the event that a diffusion occurs from the interior of the compensator into said outer layer due to damages of the barrier layer.

2. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said layer of polymer fibers is a woven layer.

3. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said layer of polymer fibers is a knitted layer.

4. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polymer fibers comprise natural polymer fibers.

5. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polymer fibers comprise synthetic polymer fibers selected from the group consisting of mineral fibers, glass fibers, polyester fibers, polyamide fibers and aramid fibers.

6. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said outer layer consists of white silicon elastomer.

7. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said outer layer has sealing properties.

8. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one elastomeric intermediate layer is disposed between said support carrier and said barrier layer.

9. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 8, wherein said elastomeric intermediate layer and said barrier layer are chemically cross-linked to each other.

10. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 8, wherein said elastomeric intermediate layer is composed of white silicon elastomer.

11. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said support carrier comprises at least two fiber layers between which an elastomeric intermediate layer is disposed.

12. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 11, wherein said elastomeric intermediate layer is composed of white silicon elastomer.

13. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the individual layers of the compensator are bonded to each other by an adhesive.

14. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the individual layers of the compensator are bonded to each other by heat sealing.

15. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein said barrier layer is made electrically conductive.

16. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 15, wherein said barrier layer has a surface resistance of at most 10^4 Ohm.

17 The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coatings on the individual fibers of the support carrier have a weight per unit area of at least 400 g/m^2.

18 The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coatings on the individual fibers of the support carrier have a layer thickness of at least 0.04 mm.

19. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, which is adapted for use in the food industry.

20. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 19, wherein all parts of the compensator are selected such that they fulfill the requirements of the pertinent legal regulations.

21. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 1, which is adapted for use in the pharmaceutical industry.

22. The soft material compensator as claimed in claim 21, wherein all parts of the compensator are selected such that they fulfill the requirements of the pertinent legal regulations.